## Amnsemente, etc., Chis Evening.

BOOTH'S THEATER.—At 11: "Don Casar de Bazan." BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.—English Opera: "Mar-

FIFTH AVENUE THEATER .- " Article 47." Union Square Theater.-" Fortunio." Oates's THEATER COMIQUE .- At 2 and at 8: "Chicago."

WALLACK'S THEATER .- "The Long Strike." CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.—Summer Night's Con-

GEORGIA MINSTREIS, Lina Edwin's Theater. SHARPLEY'S MINSTRELS, No. 585 Broadway.

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## New-Pork Daily Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1872.

Explanation in regard to the Treaty controversy was made in Parliament by Earl Granville, yesterday.

The Iowa, South Carolina, Kansas and Indiana Demperatic Conventions indersed Greeley and Brown. The President has gone to Long Branch. = Important changes have been made in the Postal laws. Justus Dunn is on trial for killing a keeper at the House of Refuge. \_\_\_\_ Carlos G. Maggiori, who shot his wife and was shot by her brother, is expected to die. Gold, 1142, 1143, 114. Thermometer, 750, 850, 720.

Comments of the London press on the performance of the American boat-crew are more vigorous than complimentary. They agree, apparently, in thinking that, in rowing, as in diplomacy, the English have nothing to learn from us. This is unkind and uncousinly; what a pity that it is true!

Venezuela is vexed no more with revolution, and Salazar, the head insurgent, has at last given up the contest. The insurrection has kent Venezuela in a turmoil for years, has retarded its growth, and involved the country in numberless fends with its neighbors. If the last news thence is true, it is good news

Brown used to contract to clean the streets for half a million, and it is the universal testimony that he did not half do the work. Under the new sysfem we are told that it will cost us not less than a round million. At that rate it ought to be well done, but well done it must be at any rate. Meanwhile let us have the figures watched.

Hayti is menaced by the adventurous usurper Baez, who has constantly vexed the border of the Black Republic which he now proposes to invade. Properly, we have no natural sympathy with this unscrupulous man, and we shall now have an opportunity to show Hayti that the United States wishes well of the struggling Republic, though we maintain an honorable neutrality.

Senator Sumner's speech on Gen. Grant, delivered in the Senate on Friday, May 31, is now printed in sheet form for distribution. As a Campaign document this fearful indictment must be signally effective in the cause of Reform. It is for sale at THE TRIBUNE Office for 1 cent a single copy, 75 cents per 100, \$7 per 1,000. If by mail.

1 copy, 3 cents. 100 copies for \$1. 3 cepies for 5 cents. 1,000 copies for \$10.

Merchants and importers will have no occasion to thank the Senate for any action on the bills intended for their relief at the Customhouse. The programme laid out for the Presidential campaign did not include the passage of the carefully-drawn measures regulating Custom-houses and the seizure of books and invoices; so these useful and much-desired propositions went by the board as so much useless lumber. Action on these bills was expected by the merchants who had a hand in their preparation, but they must wait for more peaceful times for their enactment into laws.

In the scramble which always attends the winding up of Congress legislation we lose sight of the minor details which come out in driblets afterward. One of these last is the authorization of postal cards, those convenient penny missives, sent open through the mails, which our people have been demanding. Another concession is the cheapening of transient printed mail matter. We are getting bravely on toward penny postage, though an official in the General Post-Office has ruled that the new regulations cannot go into effect until the postmasters are informed of them. Suppose the postmasters should never be informed?

ing a willingness to meet Liberal Republicans in the true spirit of concession on a platform embodying Reform principles. So far, at least, a wise policy has controlled the management of affairs, and it seems probable that the Hop. Thos. A. Hendricks, a man of for redress of the leading merchants of Newmocked ability and integrity, will bend York. The report then touches upon the sys-

the State ticket, with some such Liberal Republican as candidate for Congressmanat-large. Indiana has abundant reason to be dissatisfied with the arbitrary and selfish policy of those who have attempted to rule from Washington, and is ready to enlist in the crusade of Liberal Reform which has been begun by the blotting out of party lines.

We print, this morning, voluminous dispatches from different parts of the country which strongly mark the drift of political opinion. In Iowa, the Democratic State Convention has unanimously indorsed the Cincinnati Platform and accepted its nominees; the delegates to the Baltimore Convention were instructed accordingly. In South Carolina, where carpet-bag and military rule have combined to afflict the State, the Democrats, in their State Convention, receive with cheers and enthusiasm resolutions accepting Cincinnati. Kansas has done the same. The convention at Indianapolis seems to be a grand affair, and the reports which come up from all parts of the State show what a hold the Reform movement has on the people. These signs of the times will be multiplied from day to day henceforth.

It must be pleasant this morning for the Secretary of State, in his villa on the Hudson, and for Gen. Grant, on the shore of the muchsounding sea, to read the baiting the British Ministry suffered last night on account of the unfortunate Supplemental Treaty. If Parliament would only adjourn, and let Mr. Gladstone and Earl Granville off to the heather, and then the Geneva Court go for a few months to Zermatt or the Engadine, the whole matter could be put to rest for the Summer. But whatever may happen, our tranquil rulers appear to have washed their hands of any further responsibility. Gen. Schenck has been informed that we have said our last word; that we will oppose and protest against the adjournment of the arbitration; and that if England withdraws we reserve all our rights. The Treaty seems to have been fooled away.

Tax-payers must not fail to remember that though the old corrupt Ring is dead, much of the evil which it originated remains to plague them. We lately exposed efforts making quietly to pass upon claims for numerous contracts obtained at Ring prices, and completed under Ring management, but not yet paid for. Many of these were clearly corrupt, and ought not to be paid, and tax-payers warned in time will doubtless save themselves and the city large amounts which would otherwise be expended for worthless pavements. We shall publish to-morrow full particulars, embracing numerous figures and facts, of a scheme which contemplates saddling upon tax-payers more than \$6,350,000 for a questionable improvement. This scheme is a legacy of Tweed, which, since the fall of the Ring, has been intrusted to Judge Barnard to force upon the people. Half the amount involved is to be levied upon about thirteen hundred property-holders, and the remainder is to be borne by the people at large. Against the imposition of this scheme, in its present shape, it is time property-holders and taxpayers should protest and take action.

MINORITY REPORT ON THE CUSTOM-HOUSE. From the point of view of our fallen human nature, it is impossible not to admit that Messrs, Howe and Edmunds and Conkling had excellent reasons for trying to prevent the minority of the Custom-house Investigating Committee from presenting a report. The majority report appeared to Mr. Howe and his ed Mr. Jayne and his playful ways with the handcuffs; it justified the use of the Custom-house as a political engine; and represented the extortion of contributions from the clerks for election expenses as being the same as the voluntary offerings of church members for religious purposes. What it could not approve it denied. Yet many of the things it denied were as plain as day, and some things which it approved were punishable by statute. The report was drawn up in a tone of jaunty defiance which betrayed not only the character of the men who signed it, but their expectation that it would be safe from any review or contradiction. It was carefully concealed from the knowledge of Mr. Bayard and Mr. Casserly, and suddenly presented to the Senate in the closing days of the session. It was thought that by this trick the minority would be prevented from presenting a report, and to accomplish this object the original discourtesy was supplemented by an unprecedented rudeness in the open Senate. Mr. Bayard asked the privilege of a short delay in preparing the report of the minority, on account of the impending adjournment and the state of his eyes, which required a few weeks' rest. This entirely reasonable request, made by a Senator whose courtesy is as proverbial as his integrity, was refused by the Senate at the demand of Edmunds and Conkling. These worthy people gave no reason for this ungentle proceeding. With that disregard for appearances which has recently characterized immediate champions of Gen. Grant the Senate, they made no pretense of any motive except a merely partisan one. The report of the majority bad said in general terms that nothing was wrong in the Custom-house. They did not wish to this report was not borne out by the evidence. But by making a great effort the minority were able, on Monday, to present their views, when Mr. Howe, seeing his fine scheme in danger, had the effrontery to attempt to prevent the report from being printed, on the ground that the minority had not been kept in ignorance, as they charged, of the presentation of his report. To decide this question, nothing more than Mr. Bayard's word is required.

It was not unnatural that Mr. Howe should feel something like panic at the appearance of this strong and temperate review of his own outrageous apology. It forms a striking contrast, in both matter and form, to the vulgar flippancy and reckless misstatements of the majority. It resumes in a few clear and concise sentences the advent of Mr. Leet in New-The Democracy of Indiana are manifest- York; his credentials from the President; his capture of Mr. Grinnell, and his subsequent career of extortion and swindling. It establishes the President's early and continued cognizance of his performances, his stolid support of Leet, and his refusal to listen to the requests

tem of bribery by presents to the employés of return them? He declares that he sent them the Custom-house. This required little demonstration, as Mr. Howe's report admitted and justified the practice. The system of seizures and compromises is stingingly reviewed and condemned. It is shown how the system encourages fraud. The wanton and capricious seizure of the books and interruption of the business of respectable firms is strongly described. The fact is shown that the Government gains comparatively little from all these outrages. They seem to be kept up for the benefit of detectives and customs officers, who are at the same time judges and informers, giving decisions upon their own acts for the benefit of their own pockets. Mr. Jayne 1s referred to, with his swiftly gained fortune, and the means by which he gained it. The history of Mr. Murphy's term of office receives attention as a shining specimen of what takes place under an Administration which pretends to desire a reform of the Civil Service. Not only was Mr. Murphy sustained in his efforts to make the Custom-house a mere machine for coercing conventions, but it is shown that he took this course by virtue of a positive understanding with the President. In fact, under any other conception of the duty of civil officers, the appointment of Mr. Murphy would have been an absurdity. He was good for nothing but to manage ward meetings. "His own deposi-'tion proves him to be totally ignorant of the plainest and most essential duties of his place, of the laws controlling his action, of the principles upon which duties were collected and refunded."

The minority of the Committee close by fudicating the source of all the trouble. It is not so much in bad laws, or in defective systems of organization, as in the character and qualifications of those whose business it is to carry existing laws into effect. The amiable gentlemen who are trying to reconcile their desires for a reform of the Civil Service with their personal devotion to Gen. Grant, if they would candidly survey the recent history of our Custom-house, would see that the Civil Service can never be reformed as long as we have a President who despises the principles upon which reform must be based; who protects with his personal intimacy the lowest and most unworthy Collector our port has ever known; who gives to his nides-de-camp the privilege of cheating the merchants of New-York at discretion, and who considers all offenses against law and morality atoned for by zeal exhibited against the men who decline to follow in the train of his creatures and his flatterers.

THE PUBLIC RECORDS. The Committee appointed to inquire into the mutilation of records of the War Department asked for an extension of time. Therein they did wisely, for the preliminary report which they presented during the closing hours of the House, while it confirms some of the most serious charges against the custodians of our national records, leaves many rumors undisturbed, many suspicions still strong, and many curious circumstances unexplained. We know that the records have been extensively mutilated, that important documents have disappeared, and that the military attachés of the President have had leave to cut and slash and copy and carry off letters by the chest-full from the official files which no one else was permitted even to inspect. We do not know, however, just how far the ravage has extended, nor how much of it can be repaired, and we are not yet certain who has been most in fault. These points must be the object of a further inquiry.

Meanwhile it is proved, first, that the records of the War Department have nominally been described the elaborate system of indexing friends amply sufficient. It bleached Mr. and filing which prevails in his office. No tion, as to the past, is unusually active! to be Murphy and Mr. Leet in general terms. private citizen, by the rules of the Department, called upon to retire when everybody else is vas allowed to examine these papers for any purpose whatever. They were locked up, from the eye even of the reputable historian, as closely as Spain preserved for centuries the archives of Simancas. And to this day the rule has not been relaxed, so far as the testimony indicates, except in favor of Gen. Grant's military staff. Secondly, it is shown that by a gross piece of favoritism Gen. Badeau was allowed to do what he liked with these precious records, and that Government clerks were even detailed to copy for him whatever he did not want to carry away. Thus this young officer was put in full posses sion of the national secrets, and matters affecting the reputation of all our prominent commanders-matters sometimes of extreme delicacy-were left at the mercy of a person of whose honor and discretion there was certainly no sufficient guaranty; and whose literary pretensions are a ludicrous absurdity. Thirdly, as a natural result of this scandalous abuse, the records are found to be mutilated. Three hundred and sixty-seven letters, including the correspondence between Grant and Halleck during the last three months of the war, and important communications from Banks, Gillmore, Rosecrans Canby, Sherman, Meade, Ingalls, Butler, Sigel, Augur, Townsend, Wilcox, Hunter, Warren, and others, have been stolen. The Adjutant-General's index book is missing. The correspondence between Halleck and Rosecrans in reference to the Tennessee campaign is missing; so is the correspondence between Halleck and Grant at the time of the second battle of Corinth; but these seem to have been abstracted by Gen. Halleck, or under his orders, perhaps before the files to which they belong came into the custody of the War Department. Of the disgive the minority an opportunity to show that appearance of the other documents we have mentioned there is no explanation. It is proved by order of Gen. Rawlins they were delivered to Badeau at the White House, and they have never been returned. The papers relating to the removal of Major-Gen. Thomas are supposed to have also been abstracted; at any rate, it is morally certain that certain dispatches giving Gen. Thomas's side of that shameful controversy are not to be found. With regard to the Buell papers little has been elicited which was not known beforehand. The papers are gone, and the Committee has not discovered who took them. It is unfortunate for Gen. Grant that the

gaps occur just in those portions of the official history of the war where there has been most dispute over his conduct, and that the papers should have been traced to an officer who was not merely a member of his military family and an inmate of the White House, but the authorized historiographer of the soldier-president. That Gen. Badeau may have found the records of the War Department convenient in preparing the "Military "History of U. S. Grant," it is perfectly easy to understand; but why, after he had been al-

back; the officers of the War Department show that they never received them. Here lies a mystery which the Committee has yet to solve.

CORDIAL TO THE LAST. We think that Mr. Colfax is entitled to con siderable credit for the resigned way in which he received the condolences of the Indiana delegates when they called upon him at Wash-The gentleman has been badly ington. treated-there is no question about that; and it must have required no inconsiderable deposition to profess such a cheerful acquies-

gree of philosophy for a man in Mr. Colfax's cence in the decision of the Convention. It is very hard to see why Gen. Grant was entitled to a second term when Schuyler Colfax was not; harder still to contemplate with good humor the renomination of the man who had patronage to bestow, and the rejection of the man who had none. We will do Mr. Colfax the justice to say that he made the best speech under the circumstances which could be made. It was a case of the least said the soonest mended, and he said very little indeed. That he has found the whole affair somewhat irritating it would be denying him his share of human nature to doubt; but that he did not let any sign of his irritation escape him, but, upon the contrary, appeared to be excessively gratified, proves that even in these degenerate days a Vice-President need not be utterly devoid of the high old Roman spirit. We are instantly reminded of the plucky Spartan lad who thrust the stolen fox under his nether garments, and made no discovery, though the

animal was knawing his vitals. Although we have not said much about the action of the Convention in snubbing Mr. Schuyler Colfax, and in giving him to understand that he has outlived his political usefulness, we have not ceased to regard that action as exceedingly shabby. Mr. Colfax may, to use his own words, "bow to the decision of the Convention without a murmur 'or regret;" but we suppose that his friends may also be allowed to murmur just a little, and to regret his ill treatment a good deal. We have never known a case in which things worked more unfortunately. Mr. Colfax had written a letter expressing his willingness and desire to retire from the Vice-Presidency, and that he was in carnest in so writing nobody has a right to doubt. This was a strictly private letter, of which the Convention could have no official knowledge; but of course the extremely good-natured friend to whom it was written immediately put it into the newspapers. Even then, Mr. Colfax had a perfect right to revise his decision, and to glide gracefully to the status quo. Many active Republicans assured him that his renomination or retiring was a question for the party, not for himself, to decide. He took a seat, if we may say so, quietly in the hold of the vessel, but his shipmates found him and brought him up with much cheering,-and threw him overboard. He says that it is all right; that he rather than else likes his treatment; and if he does like it why should his opponents complain?

The truth is, Mr. Colfax is by no means the first public character who has been pitched the taffrail after this unceremonious fashion. But, then, never was there a Convention before in which there were so much good feeling and gushing sentiment, so many fraternal expressions and such unlimited hugging and kissing. A slight, under ordinary circumstances, may be met by the manly heart without flinching; but to be left out in the cold when everybody else is glowing in a friendly atmosphere of 80° Fahrenheit! to be the unloved one of the kissing and hugging multitude! to be snubbed when one's partner is bendkept with the most jealous care for strictly ing under a saccharine shower of compliments! official purposes. The Adjutant-General has to be forgotten or remembered only to be neglected, when the memory of the Convendyancing! Certainly no party had a right to demand this of any one, and least of all had the Republican party a right to demand this of Mr. Schuyler Colfax. We do not offer him our sympathy. We thank him, however. We can do no less than thank him for an example of patient endurance, of self-sacrifice, of resignation, of love for those who have despitefully

> used him. AT COURT. Mr. Settle and his friends were formally presented at Court the other day. They had a pleasant time of it; and the solemnity of the occasion of tendering the President his renomination was tempered with much hilarity. The laughter of the gods has something Olympian in it, we may imagine; but the cachinnation of Mr. Settle and friends was equine, not to say horsey. The delegation were in fine spirits, and had left their hostlery determined to do their whole duty to the country and make the most of "this pleasing occasion." Having successfully achieved the astonishment of the President by telling him that he had been nominated at Philadelphia, the delegation lingered a moment with the disclaimer that they were not sure they had anything more to say. But a Mr. Storrs of Illinois, with pleasant Western breeziness, uttered his wish that somebody would tell the President what "a superb Convention" they had at Philadelphia. This happy thought broke the awkward silence, and Mr. Settle modestly confessed his inadequacy to the task, and said to Storrs, aforesaid: "Sup-" pose you do it." On this the genial President commented: "That is a speech to which I could appropriately respond. It is short and to the point." This began the fun; and the official report says the sally of the President occasioned "general merriment." Observe, we would not call this a "sally;" it might be ' soreheaded" in us to use such an undignified term ; but the official reporter, who, note-book in hand, sketched this historic scene, distinetly says "sally."

The ice was now fairly broken, and Mr. Settle, penetrated with the warm, champagney feeling inspired by the wit of the President. wiped his laughing eyes, and solemnly averred that no mortal pen, no, not even that which writes for "the public prints," could describe the unanimity of the Convention; it was beyoud the powers of description. As for its solidity of vote, its one-mindedness, he had never seen anything equal to it in all North Carolina. But what he wanted was to tell the President what he and his friends were to do in November. Then up spoke Mr. Paul Strobach, who came from Alabama with the German vote in his pocket. With an eye on contingent post-offices, he was careful to say that he was a Vice-President of the Renomination Convention and a representative German. "Put me down for 800,000 "German votes in November," he said, with lofty mien, and wiped his beaming brow.

said that he, too, never saw such a Convention as that at Philadelphia. This nomination, Sir, was unprecedented, Sir, in the history of the United States, Sir. Some people reckon Indiana as a doubtful State, but Gen. Solomon D. Meredith then and there pledged her fifteen electoral votes for Grant. He wouldn't be sure about the precise majority; but he would bet on the fifteen electoral votes. The President, pleased, made another sally. He said: "At any rate, don't let your people vote but " once." Whereat there was more " laughter." At least, it is so set down in the official re port.

Recovering from their boisterous hilarity Mr. B. F. Cowley modestly pledged Georgia "We will do the best we can for you;" where upon the President launched another witticism and said : "That is as much as Georgia can "do," at which there was "great laughter" again. These repeated sallies warmed the delegation up to the highest pitch of enthusiasm, and they went on with their pledges. Missouri and Michigan were successively promised, and a colored delegate from Virginia, with tropical fervor, set 80,000 as the minimum of Grant's majority in the Old Dominion. In the roll-call of the States, Texas turned up with the ingenious remark from Mr. A. D. Norton, that the Democrats of his State, rather than give up their organization to Greeley and Brown, would surrender to Gen. Grant, as they did in 1865. Mr. Norton evidently belongs to that noble class of whom Senator Flanagan's Mr. Carter said at the Philadelphia Convention that "they wanted a strong gov-'ernment to make them behave themselves. There was no jocund din at this sally; the President had not said it; only Norton; and the mention of Greeley and Brown, somehow created an uncomfortable feeling, and the delegation, recovering the gravity of the oceasion, cast an adumbration of their departing presence on the military doorkeepers and went beaming down the Avenue to congratulate Mr. Henry Wilson on the unanimity of the Convention.

ABOUT THE STAGE.

The dramatic season just closed has been impressive chiefly on the score of dullness. It has, of course, offered here and there a brilliant feature. Several of Shakespeare's plays, for example, have been brought forward, in a sumptuous scenic dress, and have been illustrated by considerable good acting; there has been a spurt or two of old comedy; and the gallery of eccentric character parts, existent in every old play-goer's memory, has been enriched by a few additional figures. But, altogether, the period of nine months, since the theatrical openings last September, has been, with the New-York stage, a period of ambling mediocrity. Not for ten years, indeed, has there been a season nearly devoid of the active spirit of high enterprise and of pronounced successes in the art of acting. Yet the theatrical business, in most quarters, has been tolerably remunerative. The two or three new pieces brought out have had prosperous runs; the two or three old features resuscitated have attracted a share of the public attention and the public dollars; crowds have come to the play-house, and crowds have gone; and everything theatrical has been suffused with an air of ease if not of good fortune. It would not be amiss, indeed, to describe our stage as having been, for many weeks, like a gilded old beau, no longer saying or doing anything fresh, but gallant as ever in garb, sprightly as ever with reminiscent mirth, and popular as ever for the sake of old times. This is a singular condition for the stage to arrive at, in a capital so large, so populous, and so active and inspiriting as New-York. That which is singular, however, is not

necessarily unnatural. The state of facts thus

indicated has resulted from an obvious

cause. This, we hasten to say, is not the decline of the drama. Whatever else the almost unbroken flow of mediocrity may happen to mean, it certainly does not mean that. The theater of to-day-taking a broad view of its general condition, its standing with the people, and its prospects for the future-is better than the theater of yesterday. There have been periods, it is true, when first-class actors, if not more numerous as a class, have been more numerously congregated in stock companies; when the stress has been laid rather upon the total effect of a combination of fine performances than upon the towering excellence of a single personation. But these periods-of which our own epoch is not destitute, and which, at intervals, are certain to recur-have been infrequent and of brief continuance. They were the exceptional phases of theatrical experience: they should never have been expected to constitute its chronic condition. The golden hour-in all things-is a possibility: the golden age is not. Dismal philosophers, never tired of lifting the voice of lamentation over the assumed decline of the drama, forget this, or never knew it. Because a fresh crop of Bettertons, Garricks, Keans, and Booths is not grown every ten years, it does not follow that the stage is going to the dogs. English Poetry did not decline because the eighteenth century was comparatively barren of it. After the wits of the age of Queen Anne came, in due time, the wits of the Regency of George the Fourth. Advancement, whether of an art or an institution, is not marked by the perpetuity of a single specific attribute; but by general increase of scope, widening of influence, growth in stability, acquisition of the comforts and luxuries of life, and the ever-growing conquest of the respect and affection of mankind. To see no progress in an institution because its history is not made and marked by continually recurring genius, or because the observer remembers-or has read about-a year or two when its aspect happened to be a little brighter than it is at the passing moment, is to be worse than blind. The fact is that the drama keeps pace and harmony with the civilization around it. We do not lodge it so well as it was lodged by some of the nations of antiquity; but we build better houses for it than were built for it in the time of Shakespeare; we pay far higher prices for it than were paid in the reign of Charles the First; we hold it in more sincere respect than it enjoyed in the days of Dryden; and we take it much nearer to our hearths and hearts than ever it got in the most exalted estate of Old Drury or the Old Park. "Effect defective" nevertheless "comes by

"cause." The recent drowsy tameness of the local stage is not an accident. Its explanation, we think, will be found in the fact that the spirit of business has temporarily acquired almost a complete ascendency over the spirit of art. These two forces, which ought, of course, to make common interest and work together, have generally been in collision in the theater. Their point of contact is evident. The former contemplates the making of money, and enjoins the doing of anything and everylowed to borrow the documents, did he fail to | Emboldened thus, Gen. Solomon D. Meredith | thing that may appear to be lucrative-as-

suming, as a fundamental doctrine, that the surest way to acquire dollars is to divert the stage from its legitimate province and conduct it in an undignified and improper manner. The latter contemplates the suitable and adequate interpretation of intellectual and beautiful works, and is fiercely intolerant of all low and coarse expedients, whether "to split the 'ears of the groundlings" or to dazzle their eyes. The one is thrifty; the other is munificent. The one keeps a shop; the other ministers in a temple. It is easy to see -since theaters are very expensive establishments to support, and since the habit of the time is to measure success by the standard of money-that business will often prevail over art. It is equally easy to discern what consequences must arise from the long continuance of this sordid supremacy. Selfseeking is the fatal foe of all enthusiasm; and without enthusiasm the stage can be neither beautiful nor magnetic. Turn it into a shop, and the people will treat it as they do all other shops whatsoever. The soul that cannot rise above buttons must be contented with buttons for its reward. We would not wish prudence banished from the financial administration of the theater: but we would wish all prudence given to the winds which, for the sake of gain, ignores intellectual responsibility and degrades the functions of the stage. It is as short-sighted and impolitic as it is disgraceful and humiliating. It may prosper for a day; but, in the long run, it is a certain blight-and it has had a very long run in most of the local theaters. We have seen the duliness of the stage for near a whole season: unless there be a speedy change we shall very soon see the correspondent apathy of the populace. Never did dry bones stand in greater need of the resurrection of the wind. Every play-goer who has attentively observed

the local dramatic history of the last nine months can testify that there is no exaggeration in this view of the subject. The really fine and aspiring theatrical enterprises which have been undertaken-worthy of the stage and of a manly ambition-will readily occur to him. They are not so numerous that they cannot easily be recalled. A few performances by Charlotte Cushman, Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Lester Wallack, Charles Mathews, Edwin Adams, John E. Owens, and Edward A. Sothern fill up the catalogue. But, when the most liberal allowance has been made for these efforts, what will remain? Nothing, we venture to affirm, but the merest buckstering that could possibly be practiced. Not half a dozen new ventures have been made in the whole season. There has been a constant falling back upon old and used-up devices; a sedulous hedging against all manner of risk; a constant counting of pennies in a dark closet. A little pantomime, a little spectacle, a collection of legs, a few rural tallow candles set a burning to sputter in obscurity and perish in stench-and the story is complete. We know not what others may think of these things, but, to our mind, every moment of thought that has been bestowed upon them has been a moment wasted. They ought not to continue. They cannot continue if the theater is to keep its proper place among the educational institutions of the age. Happily, the managers have a Summer before them for thought and plan. The air, meanwhile, is starry with rumors of promise. New theaters are coming forward; new policies are hinted at; new players are to be imported. Whether, in the midst of all this, it will occur to anybody to remember that the legitimate province of the stage is the presentation of good plays by good players-these only, and no other-must be left to the imagination. The fortunate man who does remember it is the man who will succeed. We have had enough of puerility, incompetence, thinly-vailed licentiousness, and hum-drum money-grubbing. What we want is good acting in good plays. It has seldom been tried; but it never failed yet, and it never will fail.

We are somewhat inclined to believe that the Earl of Shaftesbury should be shut up as a person dangerous to invalids of weak nerves and morbid minds. This singular nobleman lately stated in Exeter Hall that he had consulted with several of the most eminent British geologists, and was fully authorized by these learned persons to state that England was but the lid of a dreadful well of fire; that there might at any time come a crumbling of the surface, which would convert the whole island into one huge volcano! His object in making these warm statements was undoubtedly the good one of startling everybody into repentance of their sins; but if he only succeeded in making a great many maniacs, we think that he had better have kept his volcano to

There was a phrase in the President's letter of acceptance which would have rendered it a very unfit document to be read in the gushing and devoted Philadelphia Convention. What does he mean when he says: "Past experience may guide me in avoiding mistakes inevitable with novices in all professions and all occupations." No matter whether they were inevitable or not, we have noticed that whenever any of these mistakes have been mentioned, all the Grant newspapers have resolutely denied that they were mistakes at all! They were noble, virtuous, publicspirited, and sagacious deeds, and nothing shorter. What could the President have been thinking of when he said "mistakes?"

Our friends, the Renomination enemy, have had so much slander to utter about the alleged connection of Liberal Republicans with frauds on the City Government, that it seems cruel to remind them that a conspicuous attendant at their late Convention has already contrived to get into the Penitentiary for imitating Mr. Wm. M. Tweed. Mr. Bumstead, the Jersey City official whose fate our local columns have recorded, is the Chairman of their Grant Committee. Now that he is in jail, we suppose that the Committee aforesaid will take some steps to fill the vacancy until he gets out again, and much we trust that they will promptly give us notice of their ad interim appointment.

The Renominationists are boasting more loudly than ever that they have secured in their favor the combined efforts of Wall-st, and the great moneyed corporations. It is doubtful whether the boast is warranted. On the whole, Wall-st. yields obedien to the same dictates of common sense and self-interest which govern business men generally. But suppose they have secured such a combination? What do the voters who do not belong to moneyed corporations, or to Wall-st., and who trust to have an administration on the whole reasonably independent of both, think of such a combination! Do they propose to go on the same side with it, or on the other side!

It is a subject for sincere congratulation whenever Congress is providentially prevented from comuntting an outrage against taste, and still more when by any accident it spends the public money for a work of art of which we are not all ashamed. In the last hours of the late session the country acquired Mr. Thomas Moran's fine picture of The Great Canon of the Yellowstone. The price paid, \$10,000, is not a cent above its rest value, and if it could not be in our New-York Museum, there is no other place so appropriate for it as the Capitol.

The Daily Register, which has now become the official journal of the City and County of New-York, appears with a new heading, as a four-page, with six columns to the page. It aims, also, to give complete calendars for the law courts and all these of hotel arrivals.